

them. Who but an entomologist would have stood on the summit of Schiehallion watching the sun set over Rannoch Moor or on Herma Ness in Unst, the final northern extremity of the British Isles and while examining his sugar seen the *aurora borealis* flickering up and down over the arctic horizon? Or sleep in the car (our large estate car with a mattress in the back and two sleeping bags is very snug) in a ride in the New Forest and wake just as the sun is up with the shadows of the tree trunks striping the grass and a herd of deer browsing all around?

My thanks to Jane Goater for so neatly doing the typing and correcting most of the spelling faults.

Notes and Observations

A THOUGHT FOR THE FEMINIST. — The value of ladies, suitably attired, on field trips, has long been recognised (Allan, 1948, *Moths & Memories*, p.125). A long white dress makes an excellent substitute for a sheet whilst collecting moths, the lamp being shone on the lady whilst she stands still. Though perhaps P.M.B. Allan's suggestion (*op. cit.*), that she may be persuaded to stand knee deep in water at the edge of a pond, in order to attract *Nonagria typhae*, is perhaps a little ungentlemanly. The same long dress also makes an excellent beating tray, if she can be persuaded to sit beneath the tree and spread her skirts out to catch the falling insects, a wide brimmed hat is essential!!

As well as these useful techniques I believe I have discovered a new one. At a wedding I attended recently the bridesmaids were wearing wide hooped skirts with an over-skirt of net. As they walked through the grass in the church yard and at the reception, several small insects were disturbed by the hems of the dresses and caught under the net overskirts. On the one bridesmaid, which I was able to examine more closely, I noted three different species of diptera and two of hemiptera.

This technique would probably be useful in sampling a population of small insects in long grass. I offer the idea to some enterprising student who might like to develop it further. — G. F. Le PARDE, Silver Crest, Silver St., Sway, Lymington, Hampshire.

DONACIA VULGARIS ZSCHACH (COL.: CHRYSOMELIDAE) IN CUMBRIA. — Dotted around the small town of Egremont in West Cumbria are a number of old disused iron ore mines, many of which were worked out and abandoned long ago. These areas have remained derelict and undisturbed and due to subsidence a number of the old workings have flooded and this has resulted in the creation of large ponds. Over the years many of these ponds have been colonised by a good deal of aquatic vegetation which has in turn created some very interesting habitats for invertebrates and wildlife in general.

While doing some collecting on 27th June, 1981 at one of these